THE EXAMINER.

Nº. 5. *SUNDAY, JANUARY* 31, 1808.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 5.

ON THE AMERICAN EMBARGO.

In any other age but this, men would have been astonished at a war of blockades, but political novelties are so frequent, that nobody is at all surprised at a system of warfare, which consists in tying one another's hands behind our backs. While the European nations however are threatening each other with blockades from hostile motives, America chuses to blockade herself out of pure self-love. England says to France—"You shall not be suffered to come out of your ports, because you are my foe and because it would be doing you a piece of service to let you out." France says the same thing to England; but America says—"I will not come out of my ports, because I am my own friend, and because it is a very foolish thing to go out at all." It must be confessed that these are extraordinary systems.

It would appear at first, that the embargo, which the Americans have laid upon their own vessels, was a mortal blow to the commercial riches of their country, but upon consideration, it appears to be a very wise measure. Of it's lawfulness as to the duties of nations there cannot be a doubt. All injustice from one nation towards another is active, that is, it *attacks* either by intrigue or by violence, but this measure is entirely passive, or rather it is a dead neutrality, neither taking nor giving, neither interfering nor suffering interference. If there are four men trading in a market, and one of them suddenly chuses to retire and trade no longer, it is evident that the other three have no reason to complain, however they may be in want of the seceder's commodities. Besides, if two of these men are quarrelling with each other, and each of them endeavouring to monopolize the market, the fourth person has an additional reason for going home and not trading, since it is most likely that if other market-men imitate his behaviour, the disputers may be sooner brought to an accommodation, or at any rate the loss of his valuable connexion may have a good effect upon the quarrel. America is precisely in this situation. She found herself liable to the most uncomfortable restrictions without any hostility on her part, she found herself injured by the quarrels of those who profited by her neutrality, and she resolved to remove entirely from the scene of action.

If any body therefore is to be blamed, it is that nation which first subjected an unoffending party to injurious restrictions. If America has adopted the restriction-system, it is merely with herself and her relations, she leaves the rest of the world it's perfect will in every other matter, she does not pretend to interfere with it in the slightest degree. I confess that the measure appears to me both just and dignified, and the more so, as it carries with it an unavoidable air of contempt for the present lock and key system of warfare. It must be allowed, that there is something inconceivably petty and malicious in withholding from one's enemies their little conveniencies and comforts, and something inconceivably foolish in sitting down to see who can bear most, like a parcel of boys holding their breaths.

To do away such a system appears to me a very sufficient reason for the conduct of America; but there is much dispute whether her embargo is the consequence of the quarrel with England or of some hitherto unrevealed dispute with France. That it is not likely to be the former is sufficiently proved, when we recollect that there had been no official communication between England and America before it's enactment; but with regard to the latter cause, the American Government is said to have previously received unpleasant communications from it's Ambassador at Paris. The FRENCH EMPEROR is reported to have declared to Mr. ARMSTRONG, that he should consider every government as his enemy, that received an English Envoy. It is not easy however to see the policy that would produce a French rupture with America. Heaven knows where the passions or the ambition of NAPOLEON might carry him, but while he is occupied in European interests and conflicts, he can have little reason for exposing his rising navy to an American war. On the contrary, the co-operation of America with his powers would throw much into his scale of naval-effort, and he would have the peculiar satisfaction of employing the tactics, the experience, and almost the very natives of England against herself.

In the mean time, France and her allies will suffer much more than Great Britain from the American re-

strictions. Spain in particular will not only be injured in her colonial possessions, which will be rendered liable to starvation, but she will lose many of those absolute necessaries of life, which the most stupid policy has hindered her own people from cultivating. But the fact is, that our own nation, in the possession of that naval dominion which neither arms nor logic have been able to take from her, will suffer very little from restrictions, which though they are directed against ships, really injure those nations most who have the least shipping. The spirit of traders is very much the same toward each other both in peace and war; the American merchants, in spite of that patient patriotism of which Mr. Secretary MADDISON talks so finely, will connive as much as possible at our correspondence, and the English trade, instead of being open as usual, will merely become contraband. Our colonies will undoubtedly suffer as to the easiness and rapidity of communication, but unless there is a direct war, our possessions in North America will have quite as much correspondence with their Southern traders as before. America, which originally did wrong in founding it's riches upon commerce, since the more powerful it grows the sooner it will split into divisions that will turn its energies inwards, will never become a great commercial nation; but since it has arrived, in it's present confinement to the sea-shore, to a lucrative commerce with Europe, it's merchants will not easily forego the gains and the hopes in which their own lifetime must necessarily pass, and therefore as long as Great Britain is at peace with her and possesses the road to her coast, so long with Great Britain will she trade.

It remains to see how the American government would act upon a discovery of any contraband trade. The first nation whose ships were attacked or condemned, would be very likely to consider the matter in a jealous light and to believe that something more than chance directed the first hostile blow against herself. The present universal fever has thrown the whole world into a state of irritability, in which every nation is inclined to be quarrelsome and to be foolish.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, JAN. 14.—The following Imperial Decree, supplementary to the Decrees containing measures against the Maritime System of England, has just appeared in the Bulletin of Laws:—

"At the Palace of the Thuilleries, Jan. 11, 1808.

"NAPOLEON, &c. Upon the Report of our Minister of Finance, co[illegible] Decrees of the 23d Nov. and 17th Dec[illegible] ence of our Council of State, [illegible] ree as follows:—

"A[illegible] r into a French port, or [illegible] our armies, any man of the crew, or passengers, who shall declare to the Custom-house, that the said ship comes from England or her Colonies, or countries occupied by her troops, or that it has been visited by any English vessel, shall receive a third of the net produce of the sale of the ship and cargo, provided it be ascertained that his declaration is correct.

"II. The Principal of the Custom-house who shall receive the declaration mentioned in the preceding article, shall, in conjunction with the Commissary of Police, who shall be called in for that purpose, and the two Principals of the Custom-house Officers of the Port, cause each of the crew and passengers to undergo separately the interrogatories prescribed by the 2d Article of our Decree of the 23d Nov. 1807.

"III. Any functionary, or agent of Government, who shall be convicted of having favoured the contravention of our Decrees of the 23d of Nov. and 17th of Dec. 1807, shall be prosecuted in the Criminal Court of the Department of the Seine, which shall be formed into a Special Tribunal for that purpose, and, if convicted, punished as if guilty of high treason.

"Our Ministers in their respective Departments are charged with the execution of the present Decree."

GERMANY.

FRANKFORT, JAN. 14.—The wish to humble England animates all minds. The public Papers of Germany are therefore filled with plans relative to an Indian expedition. Among those which have appeared, the following, published in the Journal of Manheim, has attracted considerable notice:—

The author supposes that the expedition will be made not only with the consent of the King of Persia, but that that monarch will furnish the armies that shall pass through his territory with every thing necessary for their subsistence. He chuses Astracan for the place of rendezvous of the French and Russian armies; and he adds, the Russian army will not only be sufficiently provided with ammunition, but that they will take care to have them in readiness for the French, which, to facilitate its march, will take with it neither cannon, ammunition, nor horses. The Russian army will be easily collected at Astracan, but it will be requisite to shorten and accelerate the march of the French army. It has two points of departure, and consequently two routes to follow to arrive at Astracan, one from the Duchy of Warsaw, and the other through Dalmatia. By the former the army will proceed in a right line to Zarozun, on the Wolga, making a march of about 460 leagues (or 230 German miles). There it will embark on the Volga for Astracan, from which Zarozun is distant about 100 leagues. Thus the French army, setting out from Warsaw, will have 560 leagues to go to reach Astracan, 100 of which will be by water; a march that will employ two months and a half, or three months. By the second route, that is to say, from Dalmatia, the French army will make a march of about 100 leagues to reach the Danube, at a place proper to embark. It will go down the Danube, to its mouth, on board vessels brought from the Black Sea. When arrived at the Black Sea, it will pursue its route, and, passing by the Streights of the Crimea, will land at Tangaroc on the Sea of Azow. From Tangaroc it will march to the Don, which it will pass near Piati Isbianka, and proceed to Zarozun, where it will embark for Astracan. As it is only about 140 leagues from Tangaroc to Zarozun, it appears that, by this route, the French army has only 240 or 250 leagues to march by land in going from Dalmatia to Astracan. The time which will be employed by the French in this march may be estimated at about six weeks, that is to say about half the time of the former. Having joined at Astracan, the two Franco-Russian armies, with their artillery, ammunition, horses, &c. will embark in vessels put in requisition on the Caspian Sea, will traverse that Sea, and arrive at Astrabat

(Persia), after a passage of ten or twelve days. From Astrabat the two armies, furnished with provisions by the King of Persia, will pursue their route through that kingdom for the Indies, where they will arrive after a march of seven or eight weeks.—It results from this plan, that a French army of 30,000 men setting out from Dalmatia, and a Russian army of the same force (which may likewise be joined by a Persian army), may arrive in India at the end of five months at latest.

FROM THE AMERICAN PAPERS.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 22.—Congress this day passed an Act, laying an embargo on all American ships and vessels in the ports and harbours of the United States. It passed in consequence of a Message from the PRESIDENT—in the Senate, Yeas 22—Nays 6; and in the House of Representatives, Yeas 82—Nays 44.—The following observations are from the pen of Mr. Secretary Madison:—

"This is a strong measure, proceeding from the energy of the public councils, appealing to the patriotism of their constituents, and is of all measures the one peculiarly adapted to the crisis. The honest judgment of all parties has anticipated and called for it.

"The measure could no longer, in fact, be delayed without sacrificing the vital interests of the nation.

"Great Britain, by interpolations into the Maratime Code operating on her enemies through the violated rights of neutrals, furnished an occasion which was seized by the French Government for the Decree of November, 1806, interdicting commerce with Great Britain, which was adopted by the Allies of France, particularly by Spain, in her Decree of February, 1807.

"The Decree of November was followed by the retaliating British Order of January, 1807, making war on all neutral trade usually carried on from the ports of one enemy to those of another.

"France, again seconded by Spain and other Allies, is retaliating on this Order, by new constructions extending their Decrees to all trade from British territories or in British articles.

"And it is clear that if not already done, Great Britain meditates further retaliations, most probably an interdict of all trade by this country (now the only neutral one) with the enemies of Great Britain, that is to say, with the whole commercial world.

"To these destructive operations against our commerce, is to be added the late Proclamation of Great Britain on the subject of Seamen. This extraordinary instrument, instead of relinquishing the pretension with respect to alledged deserters on board national ships, extends it to all British seamen on board; varying only the mode of process, from that used by Berkeley, to a redress to be obtained by the Government itself. And with respect to seamen on board merchant vessels, the Proclamation has made it the duty of all her sea-officers to search for and seize all such as they may call British natives; whether wanted or not for the service of their respective ships.—From the proportion of American citizens heretofore taken under the name of British seamen, may be calculated the number of victims to be added by this formal sanction to the claim of British officers, and the conversion of that claim into a duty.

"Thus the ocean presents a field only where no harvest is to be reaped but that of danger, of spoliation, and of disgrace.

"Under such circumstances, the best to be done is what has been done—a dignified retirement within ourselves; a watchful preservation of our resources; and a demonstration to the world, that we possess a virtue and a patriotism which can take any shape that will best suit the occasion.

"It is singularly fortunate that an embargo, whilst it guards our essential resources, will have the collateral effect of making it the interest of all nations to change the system which has driven our commerce from the ocean.

"Great Britain will feel it in her manufactures, in the loss of naval stores, and, above all, in the supplies essential to her colonies, to the number of which she is adding by new conquests.

"France will feel it in the loss of all those colonial luxuries, which she has hitherto received through our neutral commerce: and her colonies will at once be cut off from the sale of their productions, and the source of their supplies.

"Spain will feel it more perhaps than any, in the failure of imported food, not making enough within herself, and in her populous and important colonies, which depend wholly on us for the supply of their daily wants.

"It is a happy consideration also attending this measure, that although it will have these effects, salutary, it may be hoped, on the policy of the great contending nations, it affords neither of them the slightest ground for complaint. The embargo violates the rights of none. Its object is to secure ourselves. It is a measure of precaution, not of aggression. It is resorted to by all nations, when their great interests require it. All of them have made us, on different occasions, feel the effect of such a resort on our commercial interests; and it could be the less murmured at by those who may be accidentally affected by the present embargo, inasmuch as they have forced us into the measure, by the *direct* effect on us, of measures founded in an alledged regard for their own *eventual safety*, and essential interests.

"But may not the embargo bring on war from some of the nations affected by it? Certainly not; if war be not predetermined on against us. Being a measure of peace and precaution; being universal, and therefore impartial; extending in reality as well as ostensibly to all nations, there is not a shadow of pretext to make it a cause of war. War, therefore, let it be repeated, cannot be the result; unless it be in pursuance of a predetermined plan of hostility against this country."—*National Intelligencer.*

NEW-YORK, DEC. 31.—Mr. Jefferson has announced his resolution to resign, in the following answer to an address from the Legislature of Pennsylvania:—

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

"I received, in due season, the Address of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, under cover from the Speaker of the two Houses, in which, with their approbation of the general course of my administration, they were so good as to express their desire, that I should consent to be proposed again to the public voice, on the expiration of my present term of office. Entertaining, as I do, for the General Assembly of Pennsylvania those sentiments of high respect which would have prompted an immediate answer, I was certain, nevertheless, they would approve a delay which had for its object to avoid a premature agitation of the public mind, on a subject so interesting as the election of the Chief Magistrate.

"That I should lay down my charge, at a proper period, is as much a duty, as to have borne it faithfully. If some termination to the service of the Chief Magistrate be not affixed by the Constitution, or supplied by practice, his office, nominally for years, will in fact become for life; and history shews how easily that degenerates into an inheritance.

"Believing that a representative government, responsible at short periods of election, is that which produces the greatest sum of happiness to mankind, I feel it a duty to do no act which shall essentially impair that principle; and I should unwillingly be the person who, disregarding the sound precedent set by an illustrious predecessor, should furnish the first example of prolonging beyond the second term of office.

" Truth also requires me to add, that I am sensible of that decline which advancing years bring on; and feeling their physical, I ought not to doubt their mental effect: happy, if am the first to perceive and to obey this admonition of human nature, and to solicit a retreat from cares too great for the wearied faculties of age.

" For the approbation which the General Assembly of Pennsylvania has been pleased to express of the principles and measures pursued in the management of their affairs, I am sincerely thankful; and should I be so fortunate as to carry into retirement the equal approbation and good will of my fellow-citizens generally, it will be the comfort of my future days, and will close a service of forty years with the only reward it ever wished.

" *Dec.* 10, 1807. THOMAS JEFFERSON."

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

A horrid murder was lately committed on Mrs. Margaret Smith, wife of Mr. Thomas Smith, of Longburn, Cumberland, and also on Jane Pattison, her sister; supposed by a person of the name of James Wood, who had worked with Mr. Smith, and who boarded and lodged in his master's house. Diligent search was instantly made, and people dispatched in every direction, in quest of the foul murderer. Their efforts were not in vain: he was apprehended upon the road leading from Annan to Dumfries, and brought to Carlisle early on Thursday morning, and in his voluntary examination said, that when he was thrashing in the barn, upon Tuesday afternoon, his mistress, Margaret Smith, came in, whom he attacked with the flail, and knocked down; he left her immediately, and went into the dwelling-house, taking with him a bill hook, or hedge-hook, with which he struck Jane Pattison upon the head very severely; he then broke open the box, took thereout six Bank notes, some of one guinea and others of one pound, and some silver. He is committed to the gaol until the next Assizes. He appeared very indifferent and hardened.—The deceased were very infirm old women, and remarkably kind and civil to him.

SAGACITY OF THE SHEPHERD'S DOG.—In the late storm, Malcolm, an opulent farmer of Melross, near Selkirk, had several score of sheep buried under the drifts, some of them fifteen feet. He went with his shepherds and three of their dogs, in search of their lost flocks, and when they came where the sheep were buried, the dogs invariably either scratched for them, or set up a mournful howl. In the former case the sheep were constantly found alive, but in the latter always dead. On observing this, they dug only at the places where the dogs scratched, which prevented much trouble and loss of time. A great number were thus saved, that, by further delay, would inevitably have perished.

STATE PAPERS.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

AUSTRIA.

No. I.—Note *from the Count* DE STARHEMBERG *to Mr. Secretary* CANNING, *dated London, April* 18*th*, 1807.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, having resolved upon offering to the principal Powers interested in the present war, his amicable mediation, in order by his intervention to bring on a Negociation for Peace, the Count De Starhemberg, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has received orders to transmit to the Ministry of his Britannic Majesty, the accompanying Note, containing the offer of mediation which his Imperial and Royal Majesty has caused to be presented in the same manner, and at the same time to the Cabinets of Petersburgh and of the Thuilleries, as well as to that of Berlin. In acquitting himself of this commission, the Undersigned requests his Excellency Mr. Canning will have the goodness to lay this offer of mediation of his Imperial Majesty before the King of England, and he ventures to hope that his Excellency will not refuse to inform him as soon as possible of the resolutions taken by his Britannic Majesty on this subject.

The Count De Starhemberg embraces this opportunity to renew to his Excellency the assurance of his high consideration.

(Note *referred to in* No. I.)

The Emperor Francis II. could not behold without the deepest concern, the rupture which took place last Autumn, between his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, and his Majesty the King of Prussia; and he was shortly afterwards still more painfully affected, by the extension of hostilities over a considerable part of Europe. If by observing a strict and scrupulous impartiality from the very commencement of the war, his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty has had the satisfaction to maintain his system of neutrality in circumstances so critical, and to preserve his people from the ravages of war, he did not enter the less fully into the miseries which were multiplied around his states; and in his just solicitude for the tranquillity and the security of his Monarchy, he could not but be sensible to the continually renewed alarms upon his frontiers, or to the fatal effects which they inevitably produced in various branches of his interior Administration. The Emperor, uniformly animated with the same dispositions, has had no other view from the commencement, and during the course of hostilities, than to endeavour to bring about a reconciliation, and to avail himself of every proper opportunity to put an end to the calamities of war; he judged he could not better effect this desirable result than by constantly impressing the Belligerent Powers with his sentiments of moderation and of conciliation, and in giving his whole attention towards producing in them a similar disposition. The reception which his first overtures to this effect have obtained, appears to announce that the moment of so desirable a reconciliation is not far distant. In the confidence inspired by so consolatory a prospect, the general welfare and the interest of his own dominions call upon his Imperial Majesty to offer to the Belligerent Powers his friendly intervention; and in consequence of this, he does not hesitate to make to his Britannic Majesty the offer of his mediation, and of his good offices.

But in considering how very complicated and extensive the present war is become, the Emperor would think that he had but imperfectly expressed his fervent desire for peace, and the hope of its compleat and speedy re-establishment, if he did not at the same time state the entire conviction he feels, that it is only by the united endeavours of the Powers principally concerned in the war, and by a Negociation in common, which should embrace the whole of their reciprocal interests, that permanent tranquillity and a secure and solid Peace can be attained, a peace which should secure the future political relations of Europe.

His Imperial Majesty, from that firm persuasion (which the frankness of his sentiments will not permit him to dissemble), conceives that this pacific overture should be made by him in common to those Cabinets which are, in the first instance, to take a part in the conferences; and it is therefore with earnestness that he equally invites the Cabinets of Petersburgh, of Berlin, and of the Thuilleries, to adopt the same conciliatory views, and to enter into Negociations for a Peace, in which the essential relations of all the parties interested should, as far as it is practicable, be combined.

The Emperor has thus generally testified his wish for peace. He will not take upon himself to suggest the particular mode of negociation, and still less to anticipate the intentions of other Powers, or to decide upon those measures which it may be thought necessary previously to settle, in order to determine the principles of the preliminary overtures between the Belligerent Powers.

Nevertheless, in the hope that this friendly offer of his interposition will be appreciated in such a manner as the rectitude of his intentions authorizes him to expect, his Imperial Majesty is eager to propose (in order that the opening of negociations may be facilitated by his good offices) any place in his dominions, the situation and locality of which might be reciprocally convenient, and which, from this consideration, ought not to be too near the theatre of war; and, in this respect, as in every other point, the Emperor will feel pleasure in contributing to accelerate the period of so desirable a meeting.

LOUIS COMTE DE STARHEMBERG.

London, April 18, 1807.

No. II. is a Note from Mr. Secretary Canning, to the Count De Starhemberg, dated April 25th, 1807, in which Mr. Canning expresses his Majesty's readiness to accept the offer of the Emperor Francis, subject only to the condition of a like acceptance of a proffered mediation on the part of all the other Powers then at war.

No. III. is a Note from Prince Starhemberg, dated Nov. 20, expressing a most earnest desire on the part of the Emperor of Austria, that his Britannic Majesty should declare his intentions respecting the conclusion of a Peace with France.

No. IV. is Mr. Canning's Note in reply. The Hon. Secretary expresses his surprise at an application for a renewal of the declaration of his Britannic Majesty's sentiments, of which the Court of Vienna had been so long and so formally in possession; but at the same time adds, that his Majesty was prepared to enter into Negociations for the conclusion of such a Peace as should settle, on equal terms, the respective interests of the Powers engaged in the War.

No. V.—Note *from the Prince* DE STARHEMBERG *to Mr. Secretary* CANNING, *dated Jan.* 1, 1808.

The Undersigned, obeying the orders of his Court, in conforming to the desire of that of the Thuilleries, has the honour to inform his Excellency the Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, that, in consequence of the pacific dispositions of his Britannic Majesty, announced in the answer returned on the 23d of November last, to his official Note of the 20th of the same month, he is charged to propose to the English Ministry to send immediately Plenipotentiaries to Paris, for the purpose of treating for the establishment of Peace between all the Powers at present at War with England. This explicit and frank invitation must furnish a proof of the good faith and of the sincere intention of France to put an end to the calamities of war; and his Imperial Majesty consents with eagerness to be the intermediary of a result so desirable. It is hoped, that the Court of London will not hesitate to recognize on this occasion the importance of the proposal which is made to it, and that it will be disposed to give a fresh proof of that desire which it has so often expressed, to restore repose to the rest of Europe, by naming negociators to be entrusted with the important interests to be discussed. To avoid every species of delay, the Undersigned is authorized by France to give Passports to the Ministers whom the Cabinet of St. James's may appoint for this purpose. The mode in which these overtures are submitted to the Court of London, and the measures which are taken towards realizing the execution of them with the least possible delay, will effectually demonstrate the spirit of conciliation by which they are dictated. The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to his Excellency the Secretary of State the expression of his high consideration.

LOUIS PRINCE DE STARHEMBERG.

No. VI.—Note *from Mr. Sec.* CANNING *to the Prince* DE STARHEMBERG, *dated Jan.* 8, 1808.

The Undersigned, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has laid before the King his Master, the Note delivered to him on the 2d of this month by the Prince de Starhemberg, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria. In stating himself to be charged to propose to the British Government the immediate sending of Plenipotentiaries to Paris, the Prince de Starhemberg has omitted to explain from whom he has received that Commission, whether from his Imperial Master or from the Government of France.

If the Prince de Starhemberg has, in this instance, acted under the specific and immediate orders of his Court, and if the proposal to his Majesty to send Plenipotentiaries to Paris is to be considered as originating at Vienna, the Undersigned is commanded to express his Majesty's concern that so little reference should appear to have been had, in framing the proposal now offered for his Majesty's consideration, to the correspondence which has already taken place between the Courts of London and Vienna, upon the subject of a Negociation for Peace.

After so long an interval has been suffered to escape since the acceptance by his Majesty, in April last, of the offer of his Imperial Majesty's mediation, his Majesty could hardly have expected that the same offer should now be repeated (if indeed the Prince de Starhemberg's Note is to be construed as a repetition of it) without any notification of the acceptance of those conditions which were at that time stated by his Majesty to be indispensable preliminaries to the opening of a Negociation. And while the Note of the Undersigned of the 23d of November last is cited by the Prince de Starhemberg as the foundation of the present proposal, his Majesty observes with surprise, that this proposal nevertheless extends only to the Powers combined with France in the War against Great Britain, and not to the Allies of Great Britain in the war with France.

If, on the other hand, the Court of Vienna is no otherwise concerned in the step which the Prince de Starhemberg has taken, than as having generally authorised that Minister to receive and convey to the British Government whatever communications the Government of France might think fit to intrust to him, the Undersigned is commanded, in that case, to remark to the Prince de Starhemberg, that although the character which the Prince de Starhemberg holds from the Court of Vienna, and the formalities by which he is accredited to his Majesty, entitle him to immediate and implicit confidence in every exercise of his diplomatic functions, in the name and on the behalf of his Imperial Master; yet that when he professes to speak in the name of another power, the statement of some precise authority, and the productions of some specific and authenticated document, could alone justify the Court to which he addresses himself, in founding a public and important measure upon such a communication.

From the tenor of the Prince de Starhemberg's Note, it appears, that the Note of the Undersigned of the 23d of November, has been communicated to the Government of France. The Government of France is therefore in possession of a solemn and authentic pledge of the pacific dispositions of his Majesty. It follows, that a pledge equally solemn and authentic of the reciprocal disposition of France is reasonably to be expected by his Majesty, before his Majesty can be called upon to make any further advance.

The proposal to his Majesty to send Negociators to Paris, unaccompanied as it is with any ostensible and unequivocal return on the part of France for the Declarations already made in his Majesty's name, is so far from being a proof of any such reciprocal disposition, that it can be construed no otherwise by his Majesty than as implying an unjustifiable doubt of the sincerity of his Majesty's professions. Nor is the want of such formal authority and of such reciprocal assurance, the only or the most material defect in the Prince de Starhemberg's communication.

His Majesty is called upon to send Plenipotentiaries to

Paris to Negociate for Peace, without the slightest intimation being given to his Majesty of the basis on which it is proposed that such Negociation should be founded. If it could ever have been matter of doubt whether the previous settlement of a basis of negociation were necessary to the hope of its successful termination, the experience of the last Negociation with France would have placed that question beyond controversy. The experience of the last Negociation has further demonstrated the disadvantage and inconveniency of a Negociation conducted at Paris.

His Majesty is willing to treat with France; but he will treat only on a footing of perfect equality. He is ready to treat with the Allies of France; but the Negociation must equally embrace the interests of the Allies of Great Britain. As soon as the basis of Negociation shall have been satisfactorily ascertained, and an unexceptionable place of Negociation agreed upon, his Majesty will be prepared to name Plenipotentiaries to meet those of the other Powers engaged in the war; but his Majesty will not again consent to send his Plenipotentiaries to a hostile capital.

But while his Majesty has permitted the Undersigned to address this frank and unequivocal exposition of his Majesty's sentiments to the Minister of the Emperor of Austria, the Undersigned is at the same time charged to state distinctly to the Prince de Starhemberg, that, not having received any authentic proof of the Prince de Starhemberg's commission to enter into any explanations in the name of the French Government, or to afford any assurances by which that Goverement could be bound, his Majesty has not directed the Undersigned to give any authority to the Prince de Starhemberg to speak in the name of his Majesty to the Government of France.

The Undersigned has the honour to request the Prince de Starhemberg to accept the assurances of his high consideration. GEORGE CANNING.

Foreign Office, Jan. 8, 1808.

No. VII. is a Note from Prince Starhemberg, dated Jan. 12, demanding Passports for himself and the Austrian Mission at London.

Nos. VIII. and IX. are mere question and answer, with respect to the departure of the British Minister from Vienna, in consequence of an intimation from the Austrian Government.

No. X. which closes the Correspondence, accompanied the Passports, and merely contains the expression of Mr. Secretary Canning's regret, that the orders of the Imperial Court should have imposed on the Prince the necessity of demanding them.

RUSSIA.

No. I. is a letter from General Budberg, the Russian Prime Minister, to Lord Gower, dated in June, 1807, announcing the conclusion of an Armistice between Russia and France.

No. II. is Lord Gower's reply, in which he expresses a hope, that any Negociation which might ensue, would embrace the general interests of the Allies, and not be partial.

No. III.—Note *from Gen. BUDBERG, to his Excellency Lord GRANVILLE LEVESON GOWER, dated Tilsit, 18-30 June, 1807.*

Sir, and Ambassador,—I have received the letter which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me yesterday; and, having laid it before the Emperor, my august Master, I hasten to transmit you the answer which his Imperial Majesty has commanded me to return to you.

The firmness and perseverance with which his Majesty, during eight months, maintained and defended a cause which he had reason to suppose common to all Sovereigns, are the most certain pledges of the intentions which animated him, as well as of the loyalty and purity of his principles. Never would his Imperial Majesty have thought of deviating from that system which he has hitherto pursued, if he had been supported by a real assistance on the part of his Allies.

But having, from the separation of Austria and of England, found himself reduced to his own forces, having to combat with the forces of France united to the immense means of which she has the disposal, and in the critical position at which affairs had arrived, his Majesty was authorised in believing, that by continuing to sacrifice himself for others, he would ultimately incur a risk of compromising the safety of his own empire, without being enabled to hope that he might ever fulfil the original object of this war.

The conduct which your Government has held during these latter times, is moreover of a nature completely to justify the determination which the Emperor has now taken. The diversion of the Continent, which England has so long since promised, has not to this day taken place: and if even, according to the latest advices from London, it would appear that the British Ministry has at length decided on ordering the departure of 10,000 men to Pomerania, that succour is in no wise proportioned, either to the hopes which we were authorised in entertaining, or to the importance of the object to which these troops were intended to be destined.

The pecuniary succours which England constantly afforded to the Powers of the Continent at war with France, might in some degree have supplied the want of English troops. Not only did the British Government decline facilitating the loan which the Imperial Court had intended to negociate at London; but when it at length decided on offering some subsidy to the Continental Powers, it appeared that the sum destined for this purpose, so far from meeting the exigencies of the Allies, would not even have covered the indispensable expences of Prussia.

In fine, the use which has been made of the British forces in the Mediterranean has not been more conformable than the rest to the unity and the connection with which it was indispensible to act in the operations of Russia and England. In lieu of attempting an expedition on the Continent of Italy, with a view of reconquering the kingdom of Naples, or else in lieu of uniting these forces to those of Russia which were designed to compel the Porte to a reasonable peace, one part of the English troops stationed in Sicily directed their course towards an entirely different destination, which the British Government had not even judged proper to communicate to the Court of Russia. It is a point not to be contested, that, by following one or other of the courses which I have just cited, the English troops in the Mediterranean would have been of an infinitely greater utility to the common cause, by compelling the enemy to divide his forces, which would have enabled Russia to have sent her main army those reinforcements, which she was under the necessity of employing on the Danube, to support her army destined to make head against the Turkish forces which might be collected in that quarter.

From this statement, I am willing to believe that your Excellency will be persuaded, that in such a conjuncture, it only remained for the Emperor my Master to look to the glory and to the security of his empire, and that if the present crisis does not produce every result which might be expected, if the Powers equally interested had displayed vigour in the same proportion as they have exhibited tardiness and irresolution in all their operations, no blame can on this account be attached to Russia. But, at the same time, the Emperor my Master offers his Mediation to his Britannic Majesty to make his peace with France, having the certainty that it will be accepted by the latter Power.

I have the honour to be with high consideration,

Sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble Servant,

Tilsit, June 18-30, 1807. A. DE BUDBERG.

No. IV.—Note *from M. Alopeus to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated London, 20th July, 1st August*, 1807.

The undersigned, Minister Plenipotentiary from his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias to his Britannic Majesty, has received the orders of his Court to notify to the British Ministry, that a Treaty of Peace was concluded at Tilsit on the 25th June, 7th July, between Russia and France.

His Imperial Majesty of all the Russias, having, on this occasion, proposed his mediation, for the purpose of negociating and concluding likewise a Treaty of Peace between England and France, and the Emperor Napoleon having, by the 13th Article of the afore-mentioned Treaty of Peace, accepted that mediation, the object of the present Note is to offer it in like manner to his Majesty the King of Great Britain.

Long since acquainted with the pacific sentiments of his Britannic Majesty, the Emperor of all the Russias flatters himself the more, that he will embrace this opportunity of restoring peace to all nations, and of insuring repose to the present generation; since that, in many conversations which his Imperial Majesty has held with the Emperor of the French, he has had reason to be convinced, that he is sincerely desirous of the re-establishment of a maritime peace, upon equitable and honourable principles.

The Emperor of all the Russias not only offers his interposition for the attainment of so desirable a result; but he would even be ready to promise the support of all the forces of his empire, for insuring the performance of all the stipulations of peace, when once it shall have taken place between England and France. By this guarantee, his Britannic Majesty will obtain that which he has ever appeared to desire, and may without distrust follow the bent of his humane and pacific sentiments.

The undersigned, in requesting Mr. Canning, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to apprize him as soon as possible of the determination which the Cabinet of St. James's may judge expedient to take in consequence of this offer of mediation on the part of his august master, avails himself of the opportunity of renewing to his Excellency the assurances of his highest consideration.

London, 20th July, 1st Aug. 1807. M. Alopeus.

No. V.—Note *from Mr. Secretary Canning to M. Alopeus, dated 25th August*, 1807.

The undersigned, his Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has lost no time in laying before the King his Master the official Note presented to him by M. Alopeus, Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias; in which M. Alopeus, by order of his Court, notifies to the British Government the conclusion at Tilsit, on the 25th June, 7th July, of a Treaty of Peace between Russia and France, announces at the same time, the offer of the mediation of his Imperial Majesty, for the conclusion of a treaty of peace between Great Britain and France, and the acceptance of that offer by the French Government.

The undersigned has it in command from the King his Master to declare, that the Emperor of Russia does justice to the sentiments of the King, when his Imperial Majesty expresses his reliance on the King's disposition to contribute to the restoration of a general peace, such as may insure the repose of Europe. Ample proofs of that disposition have recently been afforded by his Majesty, as well in the answer returned, in his Majesty's name, to the offer of the mediation of the Emperor of Austria, as in the willingness expressed by his Majesty to accede to the convention concluded at Bartenstein, on the 23d of April, between the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia, and in the instructions which the undersigned transmitted by his Majesty's command, upon the first intelligence of the late disastrous events in Poland, to his Majesty's Ambassador at the Court of St. Petersburgh, by which instructions that Ambassador was directed to signify to the Ministers of the Emperor of Russia, his Majesty's perfect readiness to enter, in concert with his august Ally, into any negociation which the Emperor of Russia might think it expedient to open for the restoration of a general peace. These sentiments and this disposition his Majesty continues invariably to maintain.

The Undersigned is, therefore, commanded by his Majesty, to assure M. Alopeus, that his Majesty waits with the utmost solicitude for the communication of the Articles of the Treaty concluded at Tilsit, and for the statement of those equitable and honourable principles, upon which his Imperial Majesty expresses his belief that France is desirous of concluding a Peace with Great Britain.

His Majesty trusts that the character of the stipulations of the Treaty of Tilsit, and of the principles upon which France is represented as being ready to negociate, may be found to be such as to afford to his Majesty a just hope of the attainment of a secure and honourable Peace. In that case his Majesty will readily avail himself of the offer of the Emperor of Russia's mediation. But until his Majesty shall have received these important and necessary communications, it is obviously impossible that the Undersigned should be authorised to return a more specific Answer to the Note presented by M. Alopeus. The Undersigned requests M. Alopeus to accept the assurances of his high consideration. George Canning.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27.

Lord Hawkesbury laid on the Table Copies of the various Orders of Council recently issued.

Lord Auckland wished some proceedings might be immediately instituted on those measures, for he declared that the Orders were unintelligible in many parts. The commerce and manufactures of the country were on the brink of a precipice, and the news of the day (American embargo) seemed to give a mortal blow to those interests.

Lord Hawkesbury said, that proceedings would be instituted in the other House on the subject in a few days.

Lords Holland, Auckland, and Grenville, contended that the Orders of Council were impolitic, unjust, and unconstitutional, violating the law of nations and the law of the land. No time should be lost in canvassing their demerits.

Lords Hawkesbury and Bathurst allowed that an Act of Indemnity might be necessary for Ministers; but argued that the Orders were produced by the violence of the enemy, for our own safety, and that they should be prepared to defend the good policy of the measures whenever the subject was regularly before the House.—Adjourned

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28.

Lord Hawkesbury moved a Vote of Thanks to the Military and Naval Officers, Soldiers, Seamen, &c. employed in the late Expedition to Zealand.

The motion was opposed by Lords Holland and Grey, but was carried without a division.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, JAN. 29.

Lord Hawkesbury rose to rectify two omissions in the vote of thanks passed the preceding evening. His Lordship's motions were agreed to, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, JAN. 25.

Mr. Sheridan gave notice, that he would, on Monday se'nnight, make a motion respecting the State of Ire-

land, so far as related to Catholic Emancipation. The Hon. Member said he did not wish to make this a party question, or harass his Majesty's Ministers relative to the affairs of that country.

GRANTING PLACES IN REVERSION.

Mr. BANKES said, it was not the intention of that House to encroach on the prerogative of the Crown, but to prevent the improper application of Places in Reversion.—His Majesty had a right to bestow favours on deserving objects, who had rendered great services to the State; yet it was palpably evident, that Places in Reversion were granted even to sucking infants, who were incapable of performing the duty attached to their office; he therefore concluded with moving for leave to bring in a Bill to prevent the granting Offices in Reversion or upon Joint Lives.

Mr. W. DUNDAS opposed it, and contended, that the Crown had a right to exercise its prerogative, and grant the Reversion of any Office whatever, which it did not become the House to question.

Mr. WHITBREAD said, the Hon. Member who spoke last, opposed the Bill, because it encroached on the privileges of the Crown; but this was a period, which, more than any other, required economy; but the Hon. Member had another motive, which was the more interesting—he was in possession of an office, which he obtained in reversion, therefore it was his duty to oppose this Bill, which struck at the very root of corruption. This Bill, however, did not intend to take away the prerogative of the Crown, but to see that its powers are properly exercised. It is well known that offices have been given to infants in the cradle. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, for instance, had one bestowed upon him when he was sucking, which his brother (Lord Arden) now enjoys, but requires no more ability than counting a few halfpence.

Sir J. NEWPORT said, the Collectorship of the Port of Dublin was, to his knowledge, granted three deep!—Leave given.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, JAN. 26.

Mr. G. PONSONBY wished to learn from the Right Hon. Secretary when the Papers relating to the application made by Ministers to the Emperor of Russia, touching his mediation with Denmark, would be laid before the House.

Mr. Secretary CANNING replied, that no such papers existed.

Mr. WHITBREAD wished to know, whether it was the intention of Ministers to institute any proceedings on the Papers just laid upon the Table? He had another question to put, which was, whether it was meant to lay before the House the Secret Treaty entered into by his Majesty with Portugal?

Mr. CANNING replied, that the Treaty alluded to by the Hon. Gentleman, was a Treaty of a secret nature, and contained various articles that could not be divulged till that secrecy was, by mutual consent, put an end to.

Lord PETTY observed, that several Orders in Council had been laid on the Table, and that no explanation had been given with regard to what Ministers intended to propose.

Mr. PERCEVAL stated, that he thought that it would be soon enough to give the explanation requested by the Noble Lord, when the Papers were printed. When they were printed, he meant to submit the Orders in Council to the consideration of a Committee of Ways and Means, for the purpose of imposing duties on certain articles, provided that Committee might view the subject as he did. He was ready to communicate, privately, any information to the Noble Lord he might require.

A short conversation ensued on the subject of Licenses granted to the Foreign Trade, between Dr. Lawrence and the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The former said that such licences were illegal and contrary to the laws of nations, or the enactments of the municipal law. He recommended that the subject be referred to a Committee of the whole House.

Mr. PERCEVAL replied, that no other discussion upon the Order in Council was necessary than in Committees of Ways and Means, and Supply. He should have no objection to defer the debate till Wednesday se'nnight, or even to the Friday following, as in the mean time Gentlemen would be enabled to bestow the requisite attention on a subject of infinite importance.

Mr. PONSONBY moved an Address to his Majesty for Copies of such parts of the Correspondence as took place between the Secretary of State and the Ministers of Russia, as related to the restoration of Peace between his Majesty and the Crown Prince of Denmark.—Ordered.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27.

Mr. PERCEVAL gave notice of a motion relative to modifying the obnoxious parts of a bill passed last Sessions relative to the Assessed Taxes.

Lord H. PETTY asked, whether Ministers intended to bring forward a Bill of Indemnity for having issued the late illegal Orders of Council?

Mr. PERCEVAL said, there was not an intention of bringing forward such a Bill.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, JAN. 28.

In a Committee of the House, Mr. ROSE moved for leave to bring in a Bill to continue for a limitted time the several Acts for carrying on the Treaty of Trade, Commerce, and Navigation, between his Majesty and the United States of America.—Leave given.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Lord CASTLEREAGH moved, that the Thanks of the House should be given to Lords Cathcart and Gambier, and the Officers, Soldiers, Seamen, &c. serving under them in the Expedition to Zealand, for the skill, zeal, and intrepidity they had displayed on that occasion.

Mr. WINDHAM opposed the motion. He saw nothing splendid in the service whatever. A large force was employed to attack a defenceless people, and it of course succeeded. If the thanks of the House were to be given for such exploits, they would soon become of no value. Ministers acted in this business like a late worthy Member of that House, who having the misfortune to owe his support to a wooden leg, and wishing to attend the Lord Mayor's Gala, that it might be equally splendid with the rest of his person, came to the determination to have it gilded; and thus, as in the present case, ostentatiously set off what ought to have been kept out of sight.

Mr. PERCEVAL contended that though the service was equally painful and heartbreaking, yet it was the bounden duty of Ministers to undertake it; and when it had been brought to a successful issue by the steady, moderate, and meritorious conduct of the Officers and Men employed, he thought they were fully entitled to the thanks of the country.

Mr. TIERNEY said, that Ministers having talked a good deal about vigour before they got into place, were determined to do something, were that something even mischief, and this had produced the attack on the Danes, of which they were now determined to make as much of as possible by calling for a vote of thanks, and granting titles and pensions. If they had not fired the guns for this, for what could they have fired them? and a noise it was absolutely necessary to make, lest the people should suppose they were doing nothing but feasting and visiting. He opposed the motion.

Sir F. BURDETT also spoke against the motion; when the honours of the country were to be so prostituted, he should take the sense of the House on the subject.

The House then divided, when their appeared, for the Vote of Thanks, 100, against it, 19.—The motion of course was carried.

The Committee of Finance was re-appointed. It is

composed of the same Gentlemen as last Session, with the exception of Mr. Ellis in the room of Mr. Ryder.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, JAN. 29.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Mr. HORNER said, it was not his intention to enter at present into a long discussion of the merits or demerits of such orders, but to see to what extent they had been carried, and what exceptions his Majesty's Ministers had made; he would therefore shape his motion in such a manner, as to obtain the number of licences granted and the amount of the fees attached to them. The practice of granting licences had become so glaring, that it was absolutely necessary to correct the evil he saw it ultimately led to. It was a principle of the Constitution that no money should be levied without the consent of Parliament, but Ministers had exacted fees in granting these licences without that authority, and their amount was enormous. He therefore moved, that his Majesty be graciously pleased to lay before that House a list of the number of licences granted from the 5th of May 1803, to the 1st of November 1807, together with the amount of fees paid or received on such licenses.

Mr. ROSE said it was impossible to carry on trade without granting these licences. With respect to the fees, the public were led to believe they were extravagant, instead of that, they were extremely moderate, viz. for the sign manual, 9l. 3s. 6d. stamps, 1l. 10s. 6d. clerks, 3l. office-keeper, 10s.—in all, 14l. 4s. If there had been any gratuity given for such licences over and above these fees, he wished that fact ascertained, that the parties might be dealt with accordingly.

Mr. HORNER seemed to signify that the Act of the 43d of the King did not authorise the granting of licenses.

Mr. PERCIVAL, with much animation, defended the expediency of granting licences, as it would be impossible to carry on foreign trade at the present crisis without them, for certain ships would be molested by our cruizers if they were not provided with a licence from his Majesty. In some instances perhaps the practice might be illegal, and contrary to the Navigation Act, but he, for his own part, thought the Act of the 43d of the King made the granting them legal: however, he was not now pledging himself to that fact, but if they were found to be otherwise, the House would in due time be applied to for a Bill of Indemnity, which was usual in such cases.

The motion was therefore, under some modifications, agreed to.

Mr. PONSONBY postponed his intended motion relative to Copenhagen from Monday till Wednesday next.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, when the following sums were granted:—Wages of Seamen (130,000, including 31,000 Marines) at 1l. 17s. per man per month, for 13 months, 3,126,500l.—Provisions, 3,211,000l.—Wear and Tear, 5,070,000l.—Ordnance, 591,000l.—Report on Monday, to which day the House adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

R. Mackilwain, Crescent-place, ironmonger, from Jan. 16, to March 5, at ten, at Guildhall.

BANKRUPTS.

L. Williams, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, merchant, Jan. 30, at eleven, Feb. 9, at twelve, March 8, at eleven. Attorney, Mr. Day, Pump-court, Temple.

J. Wallis, Dartmouth-street, dealer, Jan. 30, at eleven, Feb. 9, at twelve, March 8, at eleven. Attorney, Mr. Rogers, Manchester-buildings.

Jos. Renwick, jun. Burr-street, Wapping, coal-merchant, Jan. 30, Feb. 9, March 8, at ten. Attornies, Messrs. Bell and Broderick, Bow-lane.

J. Parrott, Frith-street, confectioner, Feb. 6, at one 23, at eleven, March 8, at ten. Attorney, Mr. Howell, Bartlett's-buildings.

W. Matthews, Maidenhead, Berks, carpenter, Jan. 30, at eleven, Feb. 13, March 8, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attornies, Messrs. J. and W. Richardson, New Inn.

S. Haines, Chipping-Campden, Gloucestershire, sheep-dealer, Feb. 4, at five, 5, March 8, at eleven, at the George Inn, Chipping-Campden. Attorny, Mr. Cotterell, Chipping Campden.

J. Bateman, Red Cross-street, Southwark, J. Bateman, Wike; and W. Bateman, Bierley, Yorkshire, woollen-manufacturers, Feb. 1, 24, March 3, at eleven, at the White Lion Inn, Halifax. Attorney, Mr. Edwards, Halifax.

J. Brown, jun. Petersfield, fellmonger, Feb. 4, at two, Feb. 5, at eleven, March 8, at one, at the Ship and Castle, Horndean. Attorney, Mr. Messum, Portsea.

J. Seecombe and C. Burley, Horrabridge, and R. Searle, Launceston, woollen-manufacturers, Feb. 27, at ten, March 4, 5, at eleven, at the Pope's Head Inn, Plymouth. Attorney, Mr. Bray, Tavistock.

W. Thorpe, Pocklington, Yorkshire, grocer, Feb. 2, March 4, 8, at eleven, at the Star Inn, York. Attorney, Mr. Boulton, jun. Pocklington.

Elizabeth Mitchell, Exeter, fuller, Jan. 30, at one, Feb. 3, March 8, at eleven, at the Star Inn, Exeter. Attorney, Mr. Turner, Exeter.

J. Beach, Birmingham, button-maker, Feb. 9, at one, 12, March 8, at eleven, at the Hen and Chickens Inn, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Spurrier, Birmingham.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains accounts of the following captures:—the French privateer Marsouin, of 14 guns (thrown overboard) and 60 men, by the Iris, Capt. Power: the French cutter Success, of 10 guns and 59 men, by the Volage, Capt. Rosenhagen: Le Cæsar French privateer, of 4 guns, by the boats of the Herald sloop, under the orders of Lieut. Foreman, in which service four men were wounded: the Grand Argus French privateer, of 4 guns and 41 men, by the Sibylle, Capt. Upton. Some small vessels, carrying troops from Otranto to Corfu, were met by the Glatton, which took and destroyed nine of them, first taking out 300 soldiers which were on board: two vessels escaped only.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

W. White, Apperly-bridge, Yorkshire, merchant, to Feb. 27, at eleven, at the Star and Garter, Leeds.

BANKRUPTS.

Thomas Preston, Aldermanbury, warehouseman, Feb. 3, 10, March 12, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Godmond, New Bridge-street.

Charles Wright, Aldgate, tobacconist, Feb. 2, 15, at two, March 12, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Redit, Cook's-court, Cary-street.

Samuel Allen, Cardiff, fellmonger, Feb. 9, 27, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Magnall, Warwick-square, Newgate-street, London.

Jas. Gordon, Westbury-upon-Trim, Gloucestershire, merchant, Feb. 4, 12, March 12, at eleven, at the Rummer Tavern, Bristol. Attorney, Mr. Martin, Bristol.

Wm. Standley, Whetstone, Leicestershire, maltster, Feb. 3, at five, 4, at ten, March 12, at three, at the Saracen's Head, Leicester. Attorney, Mr. Freer, Leicester.

John Thomson, Lowerhouse, Lancashire, grocer, Feb. 11, at five, 12, March 12, at eleven, at the Thorn Inn, Burnley. Attorney, Mr. Shaw, Burnley, Lancashire.

John G. Pratten, Waltham Abbey, taylor, Feb. 2, at eleven, 9, at twelve, March 12, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Oxlade, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Samuel and Wm. Harrison, Manchester, batters, Feb. 19, 20, March 12, at two, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Chesshyre and Walker, Manchester.

Wm. Tinney, Cambridge, surgeon, Feb. 6, 13, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Bigg, Hatton-garden, London.

David Davies, Thames-Ditton, Surrey, maltster, Feb. 2, 9, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Aubert, Symond's-inn, Chancery-lane.

J. Newby, Aldgate, draper, Feb. 9, 16, at one, and March 12, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Swaine, Stevens, and Maples, Old Jewry.

J. Seccombe, Walkhampton, Devonshire, manufacturer, K. Hoyte, Grampound, Cornwall, widow. W. Hore, Grampound, woollen manufacturer, C. Burley, Walkhampton, woollen manufacturer, and R. Searle, Saint Stevens, Cornwall, woollen manufacturer, Feb. 13, 15, and March 12, at eleven, at the King's Arms Inn, Tavistock. Attornies, Messrs. Croker and Willesford, Tavistock.

Thomas Dalton, Birmingham, merchant, Feb. 12, 13, March 12, at twelve, Shakespeare Tavern, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Elkington, Birmingham.

Margaret Longmire, Penrith, milliner, Feb. 2, 23, March 12, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Birkett, Bond-court, Walbrook.

Wm. Harding, Oxford-street, hatter, Feb. 6, 13, March 12, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Walker, Old Jewry.

John Swindells, Marple-bridge, Derby, inn-keeper, Feb. 18, 25, March 12, at three, at the Crown and Anchor, Stockport. Attorney, Mr. Lees, Stockport.

Braham Damant, Whitechapel, brazier, Feb. 6, at twelve, 15, at eleven, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Mills, Vine-street, Piccadilly.

Richard Bayly, jun. Dowgate-hill, merchant, Feb. 6, at one, 23, at eleven, March 12, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Kearsay, Bishopsgate Within.

Nathaniel Wright, Nottingham, brick-maker, Feb. 15, 16, March 12, at four, at the Ram Inn, Nottingham. Attornies, Messrs. Bigsby and Wells, Nottingham.

Henry Risleben, Birmingham, taylor, Feb. 12, 13, March 12, at eleven, at the Seven Stars, High-street, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Maudsley, Birmingham.

Richard Tomkins, Hatton-garden, merchant, Feb. 6, 13, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Bishop, York-place, Portman-square.

Charles Gustave Gabriel Kierrulff, Prudence-square, merchant, Feb. 6, 13, March 12, at twelve, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Hammam, Piazza-Chambers, Covent-garden.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor does not think that the favours of MONTVELLO would be interesting to the majority of newspaper readers.

The Author of the Letter signed with a hand will have the goodness to read the Prospectus of the EXAMINER.

Yesterday, CHARLES II's MARTYRDOM.—A Holiday at the Stock Exchange.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31.

STATE Papers upon two different subjects have been laid before Parliament. The first set discloses the correspondence between Mr. Secretary CANNING and the Prince de STARHEMBERG upon the proposed mediation of Austria, and the second the correspondence between England and Russia upon the treaty of Tilsit and the proposed mediation of Russia. The offer of Austria appears to have been very properly rejected as arising from the mere dictation of France. The Emperor FRANCIS, it seems, had before made proposals of mediation, which he abruptly terminated, and he afterwards renews the same proposals without taking any notice of the basis which Great Britain had declared indispensably necessary to negociation. He advises us to send negociators to Paris, but refuses to inform us of the grounds upon which France would establish the negociation. In fact, the Emperor himself did not know these grounds; it was the pleasure of NAPOLEON that he should offer us his interference, and he did it accordingly. Mr. CANNING's note, No. 6, is a very logical and dignified rejection of this strange system of negociation.

The Right Honourable Secretary is equally conclusive in his answer to the Russian communication. The Emperor ALEXANDER becomes a mediator from the same reason and upon the same terms as the Emperor FRANCIS, that is, he offers us his mediation because NAPOLEON desired it, and tells us nothing of the treaty he had just concluded with France, or of the basis upon which France would negociate. The correspondence in general does infinite credit to the moderation, the reasoning, and the firmness of Mr. CANNING.

On Thursday a Vote of Thanks was moved in both Houses of Parliament for the Military and Marine employed in the Copenhagen attack. It is evident that such a reward ought to be bestowed upon nothing but the greatest services, since it is supposed to be the applauding voice of the whole country; the merit that deserves such honours ought to be a combination of supreme skill, and valour, and generous moderation. I do not think however that the seizure of Copenhagen has been proved to have required this combination, and without detracting in any way from the real and acknowledged merits of Lord CATHCART and Admiral GAMBIER, it certainly has not been shewn that the conquest of an unprepared and therefore unequal people and the overthrow of an ill-defended capital were atchievements that demanded the noblest honours of NELSON or of STUART. It should not be in the nature of a vote of this kind to meet with any sort of opposition, for when there is an absolute contention on the subject, it's obtainment is the mere effect of Ministerial interest, and thus a vote of thanks from the country at large becomes, in fact, a mere vote of thanks from the Ministry. No opposition, however obstinate, would venture to dispute a vote upon which the whole country were agreed: no opposition ever thought of disputing the glories of the Nile or of Trafalgar. What is called the voice of the people has been said to be the voice of God, but it is very often the voice of six or seven courtiers.

With respect to the ships that are reported to have been seen off Cork harbour, the Opposition Papers

insist that they must be the Rochfort squadron, which is certainly at sea, while the Ministerial Prints maintain that there were no ships seen there at all. It is admirable to think, how entirely these Papers would change their reports upon a change of Ministry. The fact is, that it is no matter whether there were any ships or not: Five French vessels could do nothing against Ireland but raise a few sticks and shilelahs on the coast. Sir JOHN DUCKWORTH and Sir RICHARD STRACHAN are both in pursuit of the Rochfort squadron. In short, it is much better that this and every other squadron should escape from its prison. The system of blockade is unworthy of Englishmen: it is well known that Lord NELSON would never consent to blockade. If we wish to fight, why not let the French run the hazard of being pursued, since we know they will never come boldly forth? An English admiral wastes his genius and the energies of his fleet in keeping watch before an enemy's door, like a bailiff.

There have been no recent communications from the Continent. Some years ago a dearth of news was no more than a scarcity of pins or toothpicks, but now we are surprised at the very want of something to surprise us.

Mr. President JEFFERSON has set a noble example of unambitious philosophy in his determination to resign. It has been said that he is a favourer of France, and an admirer of it's Monarch, but in this resignation and in his obedience to the example of WASHINGTON he has certainly given a most bitter satire on the conduct of the French Emperor. Every line of his letter to the Pensylvanian Assembly, so just in it's sentiments, so philosophic in it's application of them, must give vexation to the heart of NAPOLEON, if he has yet any respect for the glory of self-command. Thus two private gentlemen of the United States have each atchieved a glory which neither NAPOLEON nor CÆSAR himself had the heart to attempt.

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The Rochefort squadron, of six sail of the line (of which one is a three-decker) one frigate, and four brigs, put to sea, in the absence of Sir RICHARD STRACHAN, on Sunday, the 17th inst. Sir RICHARD was gone that very morning, with his squadron, to water in Quiberon Bay. On Monday the French squadron chased the Eurydice, and had almost taken her: she attempted to run for Quiberon, to tell Sir RICHARD, but she was cut off, and bore away for our Brest fleet. Immediately Sir JOHN DUCKWORTH, with the Royal George, Temeraire, Dreadnought, Dragon, and Tonnant, went in pursuit, leaving the St. George, with two others, to blockade Brest.

Government have received advices from Botany Bay, dated the 18th of March, which state, that a plot to overturn the Government had been discovered to have been entered into by Dwyer, Byrne, and others, who had been transported from Ireland for political offences. One of the instructions given by them to the slaves or servants, who were concerned in the conspiracy was, that each, upon the breaking out of the insurrection, should murder his master.

The town of Flushing was visited with a dreadful inundation, on the night of the 11th inst. which threatened, for a time, its destruction.

It is positively stated, that Spain has ceded Florida to France. This will be unwelcome news to the Americans.

We are concerned to announce the loss of the Sparkler gun-brig, of 14 guns, Lieut. Dennis, on the coast of Holland, on the 15th inst. Dispatches communicating this ungrateful intelligence were received, on Tuesday, at the Admiralty. Fourteen persons were drowned on this unfortunate occasion.

The King of SPAIN, by a general Proclamation, has adopted all the commercial regulations enacted by BONAPARTE.

The intelligence relative to a riot having taken place at Lisbon, in December, is confirmed. The populace assembled in the squares, and proceeded to acts of violence, but were repulsed by the military, and 38 of the ringleaders apprehended. The General, it is said, was to proceed with *great severity* against those criminals.

LUCIEN BONAPARTE had an interview with his brother at Mantua.

Nothing of importance occurred in the Courts of Law last week.

Sir F. BURDETT's speech, on the motion for a Vote of Thanks, was made during the time strangers were excluded, and therefore could not be reported.

Tuesday an Inquest was held at the George, in Mortimer-street, on the body of Mrs. Coytmore, wife of the Rev. Dr. Coytmore, when a female servant deposed, that on Monday, about twelve o'clock, she was alarmed by the barking of a lap-dog, and on entering the room found the deceased with her head inside the fender, and her cloaths in a blaze. Immediate assistance was procured, but she expired the following morning. Verdict—Died accidentally, and by misfortune.

A shocking accident happened on Friday afternoon in a lane leading from Hampstead Common to Finchley.—A young man of the name of Gould was, in company with two others, shooting at snipes, and one having rose at the edge of a piece of water, situated by the side of a hedge, Gould shot at his bird, and the greater part of the contents of his piece lodged in the head of Mr. Arson, an artist, in St. Martin's-lane, who was amusing himself at a similar exercise, and was passing, unseen, on the other side the hedge from Gould. The young man survived but a few hours.

MAD BULL.—Thursday the neighbourhood of St. James's Palace was in the utmost alarm, from the appearance of an animal of this description, which ran with great fury through the different courts of the Palace, and at length took his station opposite the Duke of York's house in the Stable-yard, tossing his head, and bidding defiance to the mob. After a short pause, he made a desperate run at a sentinel, who kept him at bay with his bayonet. He then caught a boy on his horns, and threw him several yards. He was taken up by some soldiers, and conveyed to St. James's Guard-house, severely bruised. At length the drovers secured him in Piccadilly.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

Wednesday the Duke of Sussex completed his 35th year, when His Royal Highness went to Windsor, as did the Duke of Kent, to dine with her Majesty and the Princesses. In the evening there was a select party.

The apartments in Kensington Palace, occupied by the Marquis of Bute, are to be appropriated to the residence of the Princess of Wales and Duchess of Brunswick.

We have great satisfaction in hearing that a correspondence of the most conciliating tendency has taken place between an illustrious couple who have been too long separated. An accident which happened to Charles Nassau Thomas, Esq. Vice-Chamberlain to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, made a new appointment to that office. Her Royal Highness wrote to the Prince, to express her wish of nominating Anthony St. Leger, Esq. to be her Vice-Chamberlain, if perfectly agreeable to his Royal Highness. The Prince's answer, with the most attentive regard to her wishes, not only expressed his entire approbation of this appointment, but that in every arrangement of her Household it would give him pleasure that her Royal Highness should exercise her free will. This correspondence, it is whispered, has opened an avenue to the good offices of their mutual friends; and we fondly hope that the two illustrious persons will be restored to the blessings of domestic union. The event will give occasion to a splendid fete at Windsor, and will be hailed by the public with joy.—(*Morning Chronicle*).

St. James's Palace has undergone a thorough repair, particularly the roof. The inside has been newly painted throughout; and this *fine building*, it is now said, will not tumble down for these 20 years.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 5.

ON SIGNORA STORACE'S PERFORMANCE OF FLORETTA IN THE CABINET, WITH A FEW HINTS TO LUSTY ACTRESSES ON THE WRONG SIDE OF FORTY.—MR. KEMBLE'S IAGO.—IT'S DEFECTS AND COMPARISON WITH THAT OF COOKE.

DRURY-LANE.

I again mention the performance of the *Cabinet* merely to remonstrate a little with Signora Storace on her inordinate vivacity in the character of *Floretta*. It is a character no doubt, which requires much liveliness in the performer because it is drawn with so much dullness by the author, and nobody could object to a little broadness in it's representation, for though Mr. Dibdin may want humour, he can never be accused of giving his characters too much refinement. *Floretta* is an intriguing maid-servant, who is very naturally supposed to mingle familiarly with noblemen, who is as boisterously ironical upon a Marquis as if she had been a woman of fashion, and who in one word sings duets with a Prince. If there are some absurdities which an opera cannot avoid, they are no excuse for such monstrosities of combination as these. Only let us imagine the Prince Regent of Denmark singing duets with a maid-servant. When Dr. Johnson in order to convince a lady, with whom he was dining, of the folly of what is called general equality, made room between his hostess and himself, and begged the footman to sit down with them, he produced an effect very droll in real life, but it is evident that such a scene would not have been at all ludicrous in modern opera: the wonder on the stage would have been, not that the footman was asked to sit down, but that he had not sat down without asking, that he did not make a confidant of the Doctor, or sing a duet with his mistress in praise of the beef.

The character of *Floretta* therefore is no way either reserved or natural, and yet Signora Storace, not content with it's imperfections, must add something worse of her own. It could be wished, that a young girl like *Floretta* had a younger and a lighter representative than a corpulent actress approaching at least to fifty, but the Signora has really a talent for broad humour, and she might please in spite of these disadvantages, were she to be satisfied with a reasonable vulgarity.—But who can refrain from disgust, when he sees an unwieldly matron attempting all the personal giddiness and tricksome levity of a skittish girl, and fluttering and dancing about the stage just as an elephant might imitate a squirrel? One would not wish to deprive any merry-hearted lusty woman of a warrantable vivacity, but there *is* a time of life when ladies inclined to corpulency should give their limbs a proper repose, when they should give up the jig, and the skip, and the whirl to figures at once unstiffened and unrelaxed by age. It would be a comfort to one's personal feelings to forget the scene in which Signora Storace indulges her triumphant spirit after cheating the two old noblemen: she jumps about like Mr. Lambert turned Harlequin, lifts up her arms, snaps her fingers, shakes the purse with a very vulgar gaiety of defiance, and indeed shakes her whole frame with huge enjoyment. I cannot imagine what the persons, who usually occupy the side scenes, can think of this display. The galleries always applaud with proportionate vehemence, for they are naturally pleased with their own likeness; but I am very well convinced, that it was a painful sight to the politer part of the audience. Whence is it, that one feels an absolute kind of personal shame at such exhibitions? Is it from a mingled sensation of pity and contempt for our countrymen who are pleased at them, or are we afraid that the persons around us will imagine we are pleased ourselves.

The voice of Signora Storace does not grow mellow with age: she always sings with taste and feeling, and she gives her songs additional interest by her action, but some of her middle tones are singularly harsh and unpleasing. They exactly remind me of those reedy sounds, which boys produce from a comb wrapped in paper.

COVENT-GARDEN.

On Friday evening Mr. Kemble ventured to repeat his performance of *Iago* which was received about three weeks ago with considerable disapprobation. The second disapprobation, which this evening produced, may convince him, if he is to be convinced, if the hopelessness of his attempt. It was the hope of every one who knew how to appreciate

Mr. Cooke's inimitable performance of this character, that Mr. Kemble would have considered his own as unworthy a repetition. But they who set the judgment of an actor in competition with his vanity do not consider, that the histrionic profession is of all others the most open to vanity, since with a merit inferior to the other polite arts except music it can gain more marked applause in one evening than a great poet can ever hope to hear; and it is a little discreditable to theatrical wisdom, that most actors are vain in proportion to their general success. Of Mr. Kemble's vanity the town have had sufficient proofs in his performance in comedy, in his tyrannical obstructions of the merit of other performers, and in his senseless pedantries of pronunciation; and it is nothing wonderful, that the man who could convert the hair upon his chin to a cock-sparrow, should metamorphose the mean villain *Iago* into a character of pompous mouthing. I grant, that it would be almost impossible for Mr. Kemble, even were he to attempt it, to shake off that lofty stiffness which wraps and impedes him like a buckram shirt; but Mr. Kemble ought to be sensible of his obstructions, he ought to be sensible of that rheumatism of mind which sometimes renders his fancy so ludicrously stiff, and not attempt characters that require a peculiar pliability of expression. There was not a single scene in his performance which produced any effect but a regretful remembrance of Cooke. *Iago* is a villain, at once pitifully mean and fearlessly obstinate, a character which ought not to exhibit a single trait of nobler feeling, and for this reason Mr. Cooke elevates neither his artifice into a dignified studiousness of thinking nor his obstinacy into a dignified pride. He is malicious, contemptuous, and firm, but he is at the same time downcast and sullen. Mr. Kemble forgets what the etymology of the word dignity has told him, that there is no dignity where there is no virtue: his *Iago*, without any of the remorse or the generosity that sometimes dignifies past wickedness, becomes another *Macbeth*, and assumes a superiority and majesty of aspect which were never yet united in so mere an assassin. I would not quarrel with Mr. Kemble's singing in the drunken scene, though it has neither time nor tone; we all know what sort of melody is allowed in moments of sociality, and no man was ever thought unfit to sing over a bottle, who could form his voice into something not absolutely inhuman: a social spirit is itself harmony, and in the name of merriment let Mr. Kemble amuse us, if he pleases, with a cough in the shape of a song. But in the scene where he winds up into jealousy the feelings of *Othello*, it would have been impossible, had he really been deceiving the man, to have maintained that air of conscious dignity which Mr. Kemble mistakes for an assumed firmness: *Iago* may be firm and collected, and so is Cooke, but Cooke is also shuffling in his very firmness. Mr. Kemble argues perhaps that a skilful cheat will adopt the best mask he can: so he will; and Cooke sometimes indulges in too malicious a self-enjoyment during his deceptions; but affectation of every kind, lively or serious, will expose itself in some degree, and a deceiver the most deceiving will in spite of himself carry about him something that shall oppose his most elaborate artifice. Mr. Kemble also has none of that selfish bye-play of a triumphant hypocrite, none of those corner looks, if I may use the expression, with which a mean villain congratulates himself aside. In fact, there is a degree of dry humour necessary to the hypocrisy of such a character as *Iago*, and all the world knows that humour and Mr. Kemble never saw each other. In the last scene, where *Iago* is detected, Mr. Kemble, instead of being merely firm and obstinate, really seemed to be an injured man, and waited to be dismissed to the torture with as much superior majesty as *Regulus* himself. Cooke's *Iago* is firm, is silent, is contemptuous, but you see his irritation through all his firmness, and the malicious gnash of countenance, which he gives at parting, is an excellent finish for the malicious life and defeated wickedness of so base a miscreant. In short, put Kemble's *Iago* into the clothes of *Macbeth* and he will appear a hero; put Cooke's into them and he will be *Iago* still.

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THE OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—Since I wrote to you on the subject of the Italian Opera, a new piece has been produced, called *La Didone*, professedly a serious opera, but so burlesqued in representation as to forfeit all pretension to that title. The subject is the love of *Dido* for the Trojan Chief as related by Virgil, which was judiciously selected by Metastasio, as allowing the composer a full scope for expressing the variety of passion excited in the breasts of those characters which the *Æneid* has immortalized. But the effect of the opera was destroyed by the injudicious conduct of the manager in giving the part of *Æneas* to Madame Dussek. We may endure the *Poor Soldiers* and *Little Pickles* that are continually obtruded upon our attention at the English Theatres, but could not allow the representation of *Belvidera* by Mr. Dignum, or *Coriolanus* by Mrs. Liston; yet such a performance would not be more ridiculous than the insult which was offered to the national taste on Tuesday last. It is not discreditable to Madame Dussek that she is unfit for the representation of male characters; but there was an expression in her face more resembling that of the school-boy whose tears are excited by the threatened rod, and an uselessness in her arms, which hung dangling by her side as if totally divested of muscular power, that was utterly irrelevant to our ideas of *Æneas*, whose manly presence and lofty mind displayed his divine origin. Her want of expression and of action were perhaps defects that she could not obviate, but they should have taught her to confine her exertions to the concert-room, where her vocal talents, which are of no common order, would always secure to her patronage and support. Every failure of this nature reminds us of Braham, who is the only singer we now have that is fit to perform the principal characters at this theatre, where the lofty music and noble band seem to inspire him with an ardour and animation that are never observable in his efforts at Drury-lane. I shall always remember with pleasure his acting in the grand operas of *Gl'Orazi e Curiazi* and *La Morte di Cleopatra*, which evinced a justness of con-

ception and a power of expression beyond that of a mere singer.

Madame CATALANI shewed more propriety of action as *Dido* than she has ever before exhibited in the serious opera; her figure and animated exertions appeared to great advantage from their contrast with the diminutive and feeble *Æneas*. The agitato song which concludes the opera was given with very considerable effect; but she should avoid those screechings which make us feel for the safety of her lungs; her natural voice is of sufficient force to express any emotion of the mind.

The music of *La Didone* is by PAISIELLO, and abounds with spirited passages, but his genius does not appear suited to the grand character of music; there is too much playfulness for dignity, too much beauty for sublimity. The overture is a very noble composition, and in my opinion the finest in the opera.

The new scenery was devoid of that classical grandeur of design and bold execution which distinguished the pencil of MARINARI from that of every other scenist, AGLIO, the new painter, appears to possess but very little architectural knowledge; the rough workings of the brush give a very unfinished effect to his productions. His abilities seem better adapted for the painting of wainscots, than for the decorations of a theatre. H. R.

FINE ARTS.

The pleasures of Taste gradually raise the Mind above the attachments of Sense, and prepare it for the enjoyments of Virtue. BLAIR.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In a future Number we shall give the substance of a sensible Letter on the Arts, by a Constant Reader, and will accept his proffered Observations.

Remarks on the First Number of the British Gallery of Engravings, conducted by EDWARD FORSTER, A.M. F.R.S. and S.A.

The preface to this work exhibits Mr. Forster in a character certainly not very respectable, that of a puffer of his own publication, and a depreciator of the works of others. Mr. Forster has chosen line engraving as the best mode of multiplying copies from celebrated pictures, while a rival publication is, it seems, to be executed in the *mixed style*, *improperly* called the *chalk manner*. In consequence of this, Mr. Forster labours with all his might to persuade the public, that *his* is not merely the best, but the *only* method, and that the other is a trumpery empirical piece of imposition. This opinion might have been without appeal to a higher authority, from so great a writer and so profound a critic as Mr. Forster, who calls Sir J. Reynolds the greatest painter of the English School! BARRY'S *Olympic Games* and WEST'S *Opening of the Seals*, are, no doubt, trash in comparison with the work of the famous portrait painter!

The first print is a *Magdalen*, by Lodovico Carracci, in the possession of Mr. T. Hope—ANKER SMITH, Engraver. Those who have been accustomed to admire the masterly style, and exquisite finish of this artist in his smaller productions, will be disappointed in this print; the light and shade, and the tones of colour exhibit considerable dexterity, but it is deficient in style, and this in following Lodovico Carracci is unpardonable. Beside this general deficiency, there is a want of truth and spirit in the marking of individual parts. We look in vain for that feeling, playfulness, and mastery of his tool, which characterise the productions of ANKER SMITH. It is certainly an unsuccessful effort; but the time may come, and we eagerly anticipate it, when relieved from *miniaturizing* Booksellers' frontispieces, he shall be hailed as one of the principal ornaments of the British School.

We cannot praise Mr. MIDDIMAN'S *Landscape* from Wilson very highly.—The fore-ground wants freedom, and the middle-ground gradation; but the style of the trees is masterly, and there is great brilliancy of colour and effect.

The *Paris* of SCHIAVONETTI stands alone. Accurate imitation of the expression of the original, skilful arrangement of the *tints* and *colour*, exquisite combination and scientific drawing, grandeur of style and disdain of petty trickery, unite in this work of genius and taste: it ranks with the *Clytie* and *Silence* of Bartolozzi, the *Cecilia* and *Ecce Homo* of Sharp. It has been observed, that the style is too bold for the subject. In this we cannot acquiesce. Schiavonetti appears to have ascertained that precise point, which to have come short of would have been defect, and to have gone beyond, excess: he has united the grandeur of Sharp with the grace and playful ease of Bartolozzi. Bartolozzi, though full of harmony, was *always* deficient in force, and Sharp is sometimes harsh and glaring. These faults are here avoided, and Schiavonetti has imparted to this exquisite print that "deep toned brightness" which the artist alone can rightly estimate, for he alone knows the difficulty of the achievement.

The next print is *Christ in the Storm*, from Rembrandt, engraved by FITTLER. We have heard it extravagantly praised, and a well-known monthly publication has placed it in the same rank with the *Paris* of SCHIAVONETTI. It is not in our power to echo these encomiums. The character of the water is, in parts, excellent, in others misconceived, and the delicate texture of the curling surge may, in one place, be mistaken for a stiff branch of a tree. That deep-toned half tint which reigns in all Rembrandt's pictures, and especially in this, should have been more visible. There is a meanness in the style which seems to counteract the effect of the picture, and does not bear any analogy to the grand and imposing character of Rembrandt's *Storm*.

Before we have done with this Number (the choice of subjects for which, except that of Rembrandt, is no favourable specimen of Mr. FORSTER'S taste in selection,) we have one question to ask the opponents of Chalk Engraving:—Have they ever seen the *Mrs. Siddons* of HAYWARD,—the *Landing of the British Troops in Egypt* of SCHIAVONETTI,—or the *Woman taken in Adultery* of CARDON?

In a future paper we shall endeavour to point out the comparative merits of this style of engraving.—We find there are *parties* even in art, who must be listened to with no little caution.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

GENERAL WHITELOCKE'S TRIAL.

On Thursday morning the Trial of General Whitelocke, before a Court-Martial, consisting of twenty-one Members, commenced at Chelsea College. The Members of the Court began to assemble soon after nine, and about twenty minutes after ten, the Judge Advocate, the Hon. Mr. Ryder, called them over, and they took their seats at the Board according to their rank. The copy of the Charges, in manuscript, with a printed copy of the Articles of War, were laid before each Member, and they perused the former the moment they took their places. Gen. Whitelocke, in uniform, followed by several Officers, in uniform, then entered the Court, some of the Members bowing to him. The Judge Advocate then swore in the Members, and read the Charges; after which he proposed to the Court the arrangement of excluding all the witnesses, that each might be examined separately, which was agreed to.

The Advocate General then addressing the Court, stated that this prosecution was to be conducted by him, with the assistance of the Officer who was Adjutant-General at Buenos Ayres, and that the Prisoner had applied to him for permission to allow the Quarter-Master General, who was also at Buenos Ayres, to assist him in his defence. This was an important point for the Court to determine; for if that Officer was permitted to afford that assistance to Gen. Whitelocke, he could not appear as a witness. In order to determine this point the Court was ordered to be cleared, Gen. Whitelocke and his Counsel, Mr. Harrison, and all strangers being excluded.

On Friday morning the Court again assembled, and the business commenced with the Judge Advocate recapitulating the evidence given on Thursday by Major-General Gower, whose further examination was proceeded in upon the first charge, of including the Civil Officers of the Government of Buenos Ayres as prisoners of war in the summons.—General Whitelocke stood at the table between the President and General Lake. He seemed in good health, and paid great attention to the proceedings. He was accommodated with a chair, of which he occasionally availed himself.—Numerous copies of a plan of the city of Buenos Ayres was laid upon the table for the inspection of the Court, which at three o'clock adjourned till Monday.

MEMBERS OF THE COURT.

General Sir W. MEADOWS, President.

Generals	Garth,	Lieut. Gens.	Nugent,
	Norton,		Moore,
	Lake,		Lloyd,
	Clanricarde,		Harrington,
	Cuyler,		Manners,
	Ogilvie,		Loftus,
Lieut. Gens.	Fox,		Welford,
	Sir J. Duff,		Garth,
	Harris,		Stavely,
	Cathcart,		Ross.
	Baird,		

CHARGES AGAINST GEN. WHITELOCKE.

First Charge.—That Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke, having received instructions from his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, to proceed for the reduction of the province of Buenos Ayres, pursued measures ill calculated to facilitate that conquest; that when the Spanish Commander had shewn such symptoms of a disposition to treat, as to express a desire to communicate with Major-Gen. Gower, the second in command, upon the subject of terms, the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke did return a message, in which he demanded, amongst other articles, the surrender of all persons holding civil offices in the Government of Buenos Ayres as prisoners of war. That the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke, in making such an offensive and unusual demand, tended to exasperate the inhabitants of Buenos Ayres, to produce and encourage a spirit of resistance to his Majesty's arms, to exclude the hope of amicable accommodation, and to increase the difficulties of the service with which he was entrusted.

Second Charge.—That the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke, after the landing of the troops at Ensanada, and during the march from thence to the town of Buenos Ayres, did not make the military arrangements best calculated to ensure the success of his operations against the town; and that having known previously to his attack upon the town of Buenos Ayres, upon the 5th of July, 1807, as appears from his dispatch of July 10, that the enemy meant to occupy the flat roofs of the houses; he did, nevertheless, in the said attack, divide his forces into several brigades and parts, and ordered the whole to be unloaded, and no firing be permitted on any account; and under this order to march into the principal streets of the town, unprovided with proper and sufficient means for forcing the barricadoes, whereby the troops were unnecessarily exposed to destruction, without the possibility of making effectual opposition; such conduct betraying great professional incapacity.

Third Charge.—That the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke did not make, although it was in his power, any effectual attempt, by his own personal exertion or otherwise, to cooperate with or support the different divisions of the army under his command, when engaged with the enemy in the streets of Buenos Ayres, on the 5th of July, 1807, whereby those troops, after having encountered and surmounted a constant and well-directed fire, and having effected the purport of their orders, were left without aid and support, or further orders; and considerable detachments, under Lieut.-Colonel Duff and Brigadier-Gen. Craufurd, were thereby compelled to surrender.

Fourth Charge.—That the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke, subsequently to the attack upon the town of Buenos Ayres, and at a time when the troops under his command were in possession of posts on each flank of the town, and of the principal arsenal, with a communication open to the fleet, and having an effective force of about 5000 men, did enter into, and finally conclude a treaty with the enemy, whereby he acknowledges in the public dispatch of the 10th July, 1807, that "he resolved to forego the advantages "which the bravery of his troops had obtained, and "which advantages had cost him about 2500 men in "killed, wounded, and prisoners;" and by such treaty he unnecessarily and shamefully surrendered all such advantages, totally evacuated the town of Buenos Ayres, and consented to deliver, and did shamefully abandon and deliver up to the enemy, the strong fortress of Monte Video, which had been committed to his charge, and which, at the period of the treaty and abandonment, was well and sufficiently garrisoned and provided against attack, and which was not, at such period, in a state of blockade or siege: such conduct, on the part of the said Lieut.-Gen. Whitelocke tending to the dishonour of his Majesty's arms, and being contrary to his duty as an Officer, prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and contrary to the Articles of war.

[The full proceedings of the Court must not be made public till the trial is over.]

GENERAL ORDER.

"*Horse Guards, Jan.* 19, 1808.

"Sir Charles Hotham, Bart. Colonel of the East York Regiment of Militia, has been tried by a General Court Martial on the charge of being 'drunk on duty.' The Court has found Sir Charles Hotham guilty of the crime alledged against him, and has sentenced him to be Cashiered, which sentence his Majesty has been pleased to confirm, and has commanded it to be thus publicly com-

municated to the Army, in order that Officers and Soldiers of all descriptions may be made sensible that no considerations of rank or station of life, nor even of past services, will induce his Majesty to pardon an offence of this nature, so injurious to the discipline of the Army. His Majesty has, at the same time, been graciously pleased to declare his great regret on feeling the necessity of dismissing from his service an Officer, to whose good character so many General Officers have borne testimony; but under all the circumstances of the case, his Majesty has it not in his power to pay attention to the recommendation of the Court, and is reluctantly obliged to confirm the sentence to its extent. "HARRY CALVERT, Adj. Gen,"

LAW.

DOCTORS COMMONS.

Monday, Jan. 25.

DENNIS *v.* DENNIS.

This was an application to the Spiritual Court, made by Col. G. Dennis, for a divorce from his wife, she having been guilty of adultery with the applicant's brother, Mr. P. Dennis, and for which a verdict had been given in the Court of King's Bench of 5000l.

Sir WM. SCOTT took a review of the case. It appeared that a child was born to the wife at Gloucester, 12 months after the departure of the husband for the West Indies, and this child was supposed to be the issue of the infamous connection between Mrs. Dennis and her husband's brother. Colonel Dennis therefore would no doubt be entitled to the relief sought for, provided he had not been conducive to his own shame; for if a man saw that his wife was in danger, and took no measures to prevent the evil, he was not entitled to the protection of the law. Sir Wm. Scott read passages from the letters of Colonel Dennis; by which it appeared, that he considered his brother as a very immoral man, and in which he reproved him for indecent familiarity with Mrs. Dennis, when the brother was an inmate. Notwithstanding these grounds of suspicion, the brother was permitted to accompany them to Countess Were House, in Devonshire, and there they remained together as if perfect confidence subsisted between them.—Subsequently, Colonel Dennis went to the West Indies, leaving his wife in the care of this unworthy brother. It was proved, that the husband obtained for his brother leave of absence, in order that his brother might remain at home with his wife. After his return, Colonel Dennis wrote in this manner to his brother:—"Has not a child been gotten in my absence, when necessity obliged me to leave her under your care?" What necessity? Necessity of protection! What protection did she require but her own prudence, after having been married for the term of ten years? How many ladies in this great city lived in perfect security, under the protection of their own honour and virtue? Many extracts were read, to shew the imprudent conduct of Colonel Dennis, who, Sir Wm. Scott said, was not alive to his own misfortune and disgrace, until his brother pressed him to discharge a debt, and when under this pecuniary embarrassment, he answered the claim by the accusation of this incestuous connection.

The Court, on these grounds, refused the husband's application for a divorce, and did not think it necessary to go into the charges brought by Mrs. Dennis against her husband, for criminal intercourse with a woman of colour in the West Indies, and a lady in London.—It appeared indeed, that on the score of infamy, all the parties concerned were equally implicated. A wife submitting to the horrid addresses of her husband's brother—the husband neglecting his wife and winking at his and her disgrace—and a brother so lost to every honourable feeling as to become such a criminal,—is a picture too monstrous to be contemplated but with feelings of indignation and disgust!—All the parties should be publicly whipped at the cart's tail.

FIRE.

An alarming fire broke out on Friday night, at half past eleven, in Prince's-street, Westminster, not far from Storey's-gate. It was raging with vehemence in half an hour, and yet, at a little before one, there were only two private engines occupied in opposing the flames; one of them was said to belong to St. Margaret's Church, and the other to a Brewer in the neighbourhood. Ought not the different Fire-offices to keep watch all night in a metropolis like this? The flames might have been seen to the circumference of two miles, and yet seven houses were on fire, and assisted by two engines only. The writer of this article met a little engine coming from Pimlico about one o'clock. Some children were in danger, but they were extricated. The wind carried the smoke and sparks over Parliament-street to some distance, and Westminster-abbey presented a singular and awful appearance. Its two towers seemed to glow with fire, and the gothic fretwork gave a wonderful richness to the flaming transparency. Its appearance when seen from the Stable-yard at St. James's, over the canal and dark trees of the park, was magnificent beyond description: it reminded one of Mr. Scott's beautiful description of the magic fire of Melross Abbey in his Lay of the Last Minstrel.

MARRIAGES.

Monday, the Earl of Pembroke, according to the rites of the Greek Church, to the Countess of Woronzow, at the Greek Chapel, Mary-le-bonne; after which they were re-married by the Bishop of Salisbury, at the Countess Dowager of Pembroke's, in Cavendish-square.

DEATHS.

On Thursday afternoon, Mr. Collins, Proprietor of the Salisbury Journal: he fell down in an apoplectic fit in the street, and was taken home to Mortimer-street, where he expired.

A few evenings since, Mr. Parnell, attorney, of Whitechapel, and Clerk to the Court of Requests of the Tower Hamlets: he was standing by the fire at the Rainbow-Coffee-house, in apparent health, when he suddenly fell down, and expired.

Lately, at Keilles, in the parish of Fowlis, Wester, Scotland, Janet M'Naughton, in her 108th year. Her memory had completely failed her as to recent occurrences, even of a few days, while it was remarkably retentive as to events of a very remote date. She enjoyed excellent health till within two days of her death.

On Wednesday se'ennight, at his seat in Cheshire, Richard Pennant, Baron Penryhn, of Penryhn, Ireland. His Lordship was created a Baron, Sept. 26, 1788. In 1765, his Lordship married Ann Susannah, only child and heiress of Lieutenant-General Warburton, of Winnington, in Cheshire.

Wednesday a man dressed in a seaman's habit, finding himself suddenly indisposed, sat down at the door of Mr. Furnel, trunk-maker, in St. Paul's Church-yard, and almost instantly expired.

On Wednesday, the 20th current, at Amisfield, the Right Hon. Francis Lord Elcho.

On Wednesday, in Lisson-street, Lisson-green, aged 86, Mr. Joseph Buckmaster, only brother of the late Samuel Buckmaster, Esq. of Jamaica.

Wednesday morning early, at his house at Hammersmith, Dr. Flower.

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